

Safety Culture: An Educational Resource about the Safety Culture Policy Statement

Safety Culture Trait Talks

The NRC developed safety culture trait talks to offer a better understanding of the nine traits of a positive safety culture as listed in the Safety Culture Policy Statement. The trait talks describe how each trait applies to individuals or groups. These may be NRC employees interacting with an external stakeholders, NRC licensees, vendors or contractor employees, organizations interested in the safe and secure use of nuclear materials, or others involved in nuclear safety regulation. In addition to the nine safety culture traits identified by the NRC, the agency recognizes that additional traits may also be important. In addition, please note that the traits were not developed for inspection purposes.

Each safety culture trait talk includes discussion on the following:

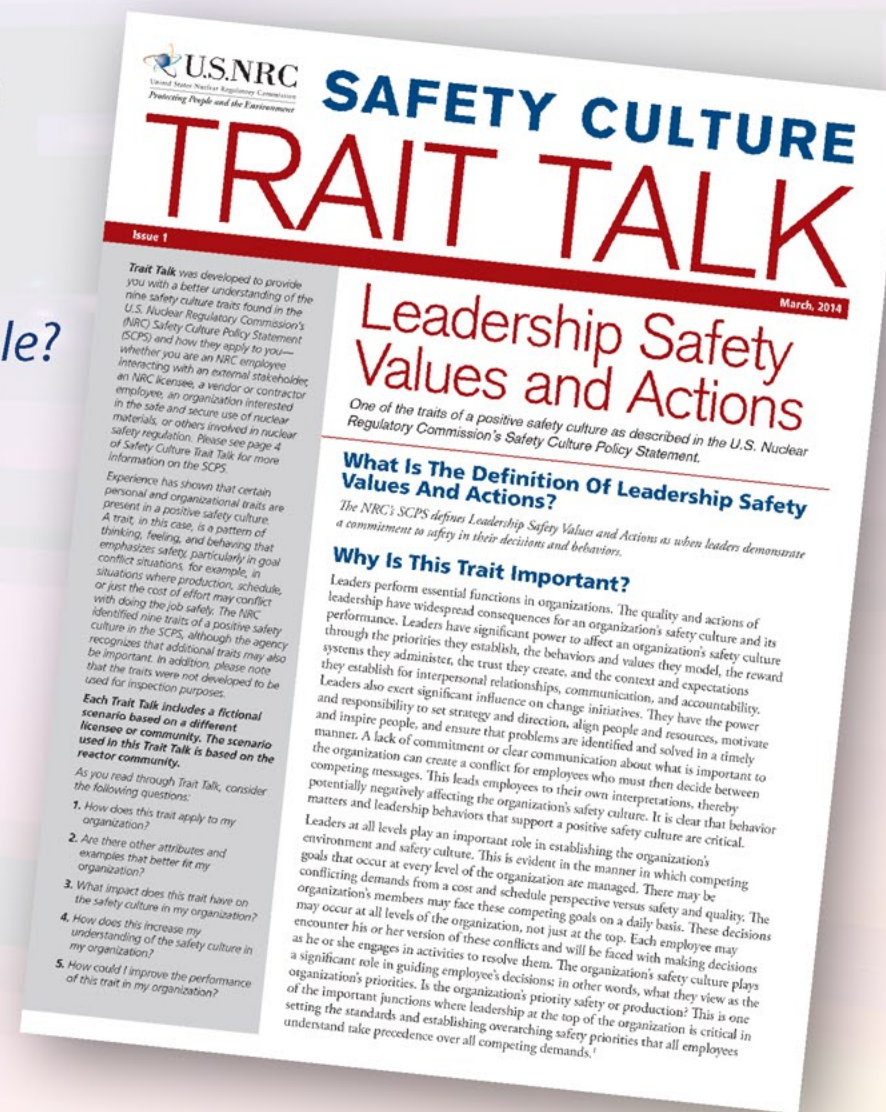
- Why is this trait important?
- What does this trait look like?
- What is a scenario in which this trait could play a role?
- Questions for dialogue and reflection.

Safety Culture Trait Talks:

- Leadership Safety Values and Actions
- Work Processes
- Questioning Attitude
- Problem Identification and Resolution
- Environment for Raising Concerns
- Effective Safety Communication
- Respectful Work Environment
- Continuous Learning
- Personal Accountability

Sample questions from Educational Resource for Reflection and Dialogue:

1. How does this scenario apply to the safety culture trait of work processes?
2. How could management handle this situation differently?
3. How does this trait apply to my organization?
4. What impact does this trait have on the safety culture in my organization?
5. How does this increase my understanding of the safety culture in my organization?
6. How could I improve the performance of this trait in my organization?



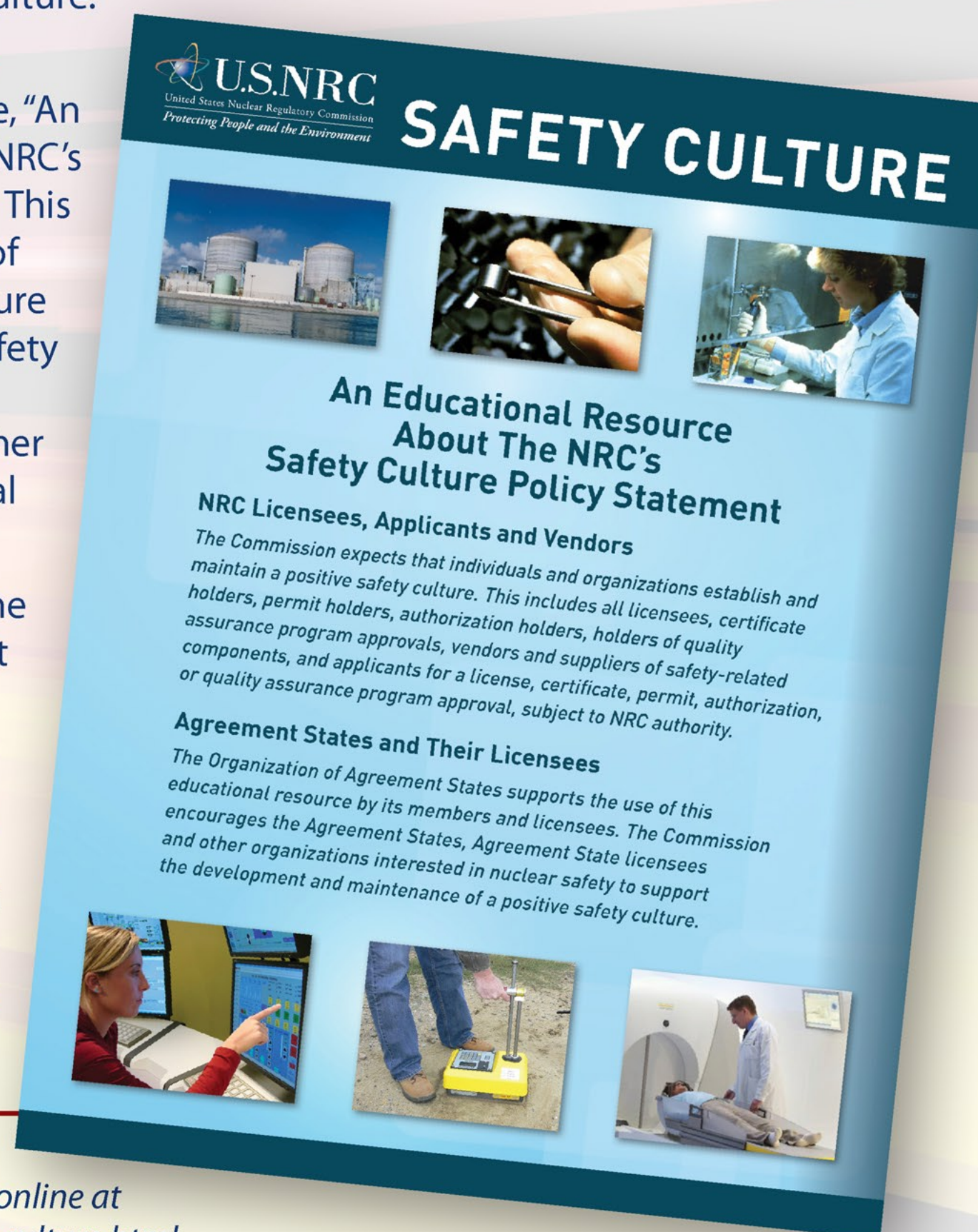
An Educational Resource about the NRC's Safety Culture Policy Statement

The NRC published the Safety Culture Policy Statement in 2011, and then developed many educational tools—including safety culture trait talks, case studies, and a safety culture journey—to improve understanding of the importance of a positive safety culture.

Now the NRC has added another educational tool on safety culture, “An Educational Resource about the NRC’s Safety Culture Policy Statement.” This resource provides an extra level of understanding of the Safety Culture Policy Statement and the nine safety culture traits by focusing on the educational tools collectively rather than individually. This educational resource includes the following:

- The Federal Register notice of the Safety Culture Policy Statement
- Nine safety culture trait talks
- One safety culture case study and one safety culture journey
- A series of questions after each trait talk, the case study, and the journey to help encourage reflection and dialogue

The Safety Culture Policy Statement and the education tools can be found online at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/safety-culture.html>.



Safety Culture Case Study and Journey

The NRC developed safety culture case studies to analyze real-life events and examine the role that safety culture played in contributing to the loss of life and damage associated with the events. The NRC developed the safety culture journey to provide a review of an organization’s efforts to improve its safety culture through assessments, corrective actions, and new initiatives.

Although case studies and journeys depict a certain community, the lessons learned can be applicable to any organization. Consider how an event in your own organization could occur if you are experiencing similar weak or absent safety culture traits.

For the Educational Resource, the following were chosen because they discuss the same event and organization. A more in depth understanding of safety culture can be gained by considering this case study and journey together

- Case study: “June 2009 Collision of Two Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metrorail Trains near Fort Totten Station, Washington, DC”
- Safety culture journey: “The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority”

Sample questions from Educational Resource for Reflection and Dialogue:

1. What could have been done differently to prevent this event?
2. What can I learn from this case?
3. How does this increase my understanding of safety culture?
4. Has my organization been on a similar journey?
5. What can I learn from this organization’s experience?
6. How could I improve safety culture in my organization?

